

Central Yavapai Highlands
Water Resources Management Study

Technical Working Group
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 6, 2012
11:00a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cottonwood, Az.

Attendees:

Vivian Gonzales-Reclamation, Gerry Walker-ADWR, Tom Whitmer-Cottonwood, John Rasmussen-Yavapai Co., Greg Kornrumph-SRP, John Zambrano-CWAG, Ken Janecek- CWAG, John Munderloh-Prescott Valley, Jeanmarie Haney-TNC, Deborah Tosline-Reclamation, Steve Olson-TNC, Danny Falcon-Reclamation, Abe Springer-NAU, Leslie Meyers-Reclamation, Brent Bitz-Sedona, Ed Wolfe-VWA-VRBP, Jane Moore-Jerome, Sharon Masek lopez-NAU, Brenda Smith-FWS, Tony Gioia, John Martinez-Sedona, Dan Campbell-VWA .

Macro Rainwater Harvesting Alternative

Danny Falcon went over the summary for the Macro Rainwater Harvesting Alternative. The alternatives were for recharge only and recovery costs were not included. John Rasmussen said the water supply needs to be brought to the surface in order to compare to the other alternatives. Danny will add recovery wells to the alternative.

Doug McMillan used precipitation data from 2005, which had plenty of rainfall.

Doug mentioned that Granite Creek is ideal for recharge and that is why the areas of harvesting are at the creek. But not all the water can be recovered and would only receive 50% credits.

It was asked how much water would've recharged anyways. Doug said that less than 2% recharges naturally.

Doug explained that the terms macro and micro are interrelated and that micro is just a subset of macro. Greg noted that the term macro rainwater harvesting has a negative connotation and should be renamed. It was decided to rename Macro Rainwater Harvesting to Rainwater Harvesting-Aquifer Storage.

Also, evaporative rates are different in winter than in summer.

Gerry Walker suggested more description for assumptions for the Rainwater Harvesting Alternative.

Local Groundwater within the Prescott AMA Alternative

Vivian and Deborah worked with Gerry Walker, Leslie Graser and John Munderloh on the Local Groundwater Alternative within the Prescott AMA. This alternative will take into consideration the "legal" amount of groundwater available calculated by sub-division lots and the City of Prescott's Designation of Order.

Watershed Management Alternative

Sharon Masek Lopez gave an update on the Watershed Management Alternative. She said that the Four Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI) is a collaborative effort to restore forest ecosystems. Hundreds of thousands of acres on Ponderosa Forests are going to be thinned in this effort. It will increase surface runoff and recharge, mainly from snow pack. However, overtime the runoff and recharge will decrease over time due to vegetation growth.

Greg stated that this effort is to restore the forest that has been in decline to its natural state or mimic a healthy watershed and thus the increased runoff and recharge isn't a "new" water supply.

Abe Springer said there is a possible 18% water reduction due to climate change in the future.

Sharon said that there could be a possible 5,000-7,000 AFY increase of water for a 100,000-200,000 acre ft. area of treated forest within our study area.

The cost of watershed restoration is approximately \$800 an acre. There is no plan or costs for continued maintenance.

There seems to be a willingness in the communities to pay for these kinds of efforts for higher quality water.

Legal & Institutional Considerations

Deborah created a matrix for the Legal & Institutional Considerations. It will only have Federal, state, or local regulations and other institutional criteria. Public perceptions and/or concerns will be stated in the report and not in this document.

Deborah will set up a sub-group to finalize the Legal & Institutional Consideration document.

October meeting is CANCELED

Next Meeting

November 1, 2012

10:30am – 12:00pm

Cottonwood, AZ

Minutes taken by Vivian Gonzales, Bureau of Reclamation